

# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## Department of Employment Services



MURIEL BOWSER  
MAYOR

DR. UNIQUE MORRIS-HUGHES  
DIRECTOR

### YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE (YAAC)

D.C. Department of Employment Services

Meeting Minutes of March 31, 2022

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman, William Dean, called the meeting to order at 3:08 PM.

#### II. ROLL CALL

Lewis Brown took roll call.

#### III. COMMITTEE ATTENDEES: – William Dean, Burt Barnow and Erica Jones

**SAFF ATTENDEE:** Lewis Brown, Ashley Williams, Kenneth Walker, Dr. Marla Wyche, Michael Taylor in addition to all OAIT staff

**SPEACIAL GUEST ATTENDEE:** Ms. Lul Tefai

#### IV. DOES UPDATES:

Program Manager, Lewis Brown reported out that the youth apprenticeship initiative in partnerships with IDEA Charter High School and Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) had fifteen (15) high school students enrolled. The Office of Apprenticeship is continuing to work with Ballou Stay High School officials for a youth apprenticeship initiative.

Program Manager Lewis Brown reported out that the Office of Apprenticeship hosted a virtual apprenticeship information session on Apprenticeship for Educators that included high school principals, guidance counselors and teachers from IDEA Charter High School and Luke C. Moore High School. The information session was one of several planned sessions to educate educators on the significance of the apprenticeship system as a viable career options students upon graduation.

The Office of Apprenticeship also hosted a virtual apprenticeship session event for Women in Construction to highlight available career opportunities for women in the construction industry. The session included several women, who shared their experience and highlighted their achievements through apprenticeship. Several union apprenticeship sponsors also participated in the session and provided information on their apprenticeship program and available opportunities.

Program Manager, Lewis Brown reported out that the Office of Apprenticeship was finalizing the upcoming Youth Apprenticeship Awareness Week events that will begin on May 02, 2022. Mr. Brown noted that the first event will include an Apprenticeship Signing Day to recognize those high school youth completing their pre-apprenticeship training to transition to registered apprenticeship. The event will be in-person held at the Martin Luther King Library.

Lastly, Program Manager, Lewis Brown noted that two (2) new members will be added to the YAAC, covering some of the vacancies. Mr. Brown also noted that the new made be attending the next meeting.

#### **V. New America Discussion**

Ms. Lul Tesfai, Senior Advisor, Center on Education and Labor for New America was invited as special guest to provide information of her organization's vision, initiatives and tools use for promoting youth apprenticeships. Ms. Tesfai discussed youth apprenticeship initiatives through the Partnership to Advance Youth Apprenticeship (PAYA). She also noted that New America offered 17 grants, in 2022 geared toward youth apprenticeship initiatives.

#### **V. Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 3: 45 PM.